

Winter recreation, cultural programs enrich lives

Don't hibernate this winter – get out and enjoy the City of Tempe's many recreation and cultural classes, from exercise and painting, to music and dance. Tempe's lineup of winter classes will be available online Dec. 5. The Tempe Opportunities brochure will be mailed to all households and will be available at city facilities. Registration begins Dec. 8 at 9 a.m. for Tempe residents.

Tempe Parks and Recreation offers a variety of classes, as does the city's Cultural Services division, which features basic art, dance and music concepts for young artists and performers. Tempe art classes begin the week of Jan. 12 and last eight weeks.

Tempe residents can register online with any major credit card 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Registration is also available via mail, fax or in person. For more information, call 480-350-5200 or visit www.tempe.gov/brochure.



“Destination: Tempe” is ultimate year-end party

Tempe is the best place to cap off 2008, with the grand opening of light rail within days of the Insight Bowl and Insight Fiesta Bowl Block Party. All the party needs is you!

The region will celebrate the new 20-mile light rail system with parties along the alignment on Saturday, Dec. 27. That day in Tempe, there will be free celebrations at some of the city's nine light rail stations, with a centerpiece community party from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Fifth Street and College Avenue near the new Tempe Transportation Center. Capping off Tempe's party on Fifth Street will be a performance by Arizona's own Roger Clyne and the Peacemakers. For more information on the fun family activities planned for Dec. 27, check www.tempe.gov/destinationtempe for updates.

Be part of history by volunteering for the light rail grand opening festivities in Tempe. Volunteers will serve in the children's activity and informational booths, and assist with set-up and take down. Shifts are available between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. Volunteers will receive a commemorative, long-sleeve T-shirt to wear at the event. For more information or to volunteer, call 480-350-5190.

Just a few days after riding the rail, head for Sun Devil Stadium on Wednesday, Dec. 31, to cheer on the Big Ten and Big 12 teams playing at the Insight Bowl. Game attendees will be able to continue the festivities at the Insight Fiesta Bowl Block Party on the night of Dec. 31 in the Mill Avenue District. More than 100,000 revelers are expected to attend the event, which is Arizona's biggest and best midnight countdown event. For more information, visit www.insightbowl.org.



DECEMBER 31, 2008

5:00 P.M. - 1:00 A.M. MILL AVENUE DISTRICT
7:00 P.M. - 1:00 A.M. TEMPE BEACH PARK

LIMIT FOUR TICKETS PER HOUSEHOLD

Insight Fiesta Bowl Block Party tickets at the special rate of \$5.00 per ticket for Tempe residents. Kids 12 and under FREE with purchase of an adult admission. Enjoy stages of live entertainment featuring national and local acts.

**Kids Area • Carnival • Food & Refreshments •
Fireworks • Street Performers**

(proof of residency required)

Flood Insurance Program

The City of Tempe is a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), which allows Tempe property owners to purchase flood insurance. Properties do not need to be located in a flood hazard area to be eligible for flood insurance; however, properties that are located in identified flood hazard areas are required by law to be insured. Flood hazard areas are defined as having a 25 percent chance of being flooded over the life of a 30-year mortgage. Large or small floods have a chance of occurring at any time and create a significant hazard to people and property. Tempe flood hazard areas exist primarily in and around the Salt River bed and adjacent to elevated canals or railroads and are shown on Flood Insurance Rate Maps. To find out if you are in a Special Flood Hazard Area, call 480-350-8288, or visit the Engineering Division Office in the Tempe City Hall complex at 31 E. 5th Street. Property owners interested in flood insurance should contact their personal insurance carrier for coverage and pricing. Elevation Certificates are required to be submitted to the City of Tempe Engineering Division for new structures and major additions to existing structures located in identified flood hazard areas; those forms and instructions are available at www.fema.gov. Copies of Elevation Certificates may be available for some properties in the floodplain.

Learn about school tax credit

Tempe's three school districts invite the community to attend the annual "Flippin for Education" Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 8-11 a.m., at Tempe Schools Credit Union, 2800 S. Mill Ave. The event is a chance to learn about the state tax credit of up to \$400 that taxpayers are eligible to receive if they donate to the Tempe Union High School District, Tempe Elementary Schools or the Kyrene School District. Schools use the donations for programs, activities, arts and athletics. Tickets to the breakfast are \$2 and entertainment and prize drawings will be featured. For information, call 480-967-9475.

Residents can assist with alley appearance

Now that the weather is cooler, Tempe residents often are inspired to spruce up their properties. Yet many are unaware that homeowners and tenants are responsible for maintenance of the alleys behind their homes from the property line to the center of the alley. The City of Tempe asks that residents:

- Properly dispose of uncollectible items such as dirt, rock, concrete, sod, rolls of carpet and remodeling material. These should not be placed in alleys. Contractors who do work on homes are required to take materials with them.
- Contact the city to arrange for a special bulk pickup, if needed. To dispose of remodeling materials, you can call 480-350-8265 to request a container, for a fee. In addition, Tempe residents may also dispose of one free load of up to 2,000 pounds at the transfer station, with a valid picture I.D., plus their last month's utility statement showing a Tempe address.
- Inform landscapers it is their responsibility to remove all items from the premises, including grass clippings, palm fronds and tree trimmings.
- Place items for bulk pickup no more than 10 days prior to the scheduled collection week.

For more information on trash pickup or recycling, visit www.tempe.gov/recycling or call 480-350-8265. For more information on the Solid Waste Code, visit www.tempe.gov/citycode/28SolidWaste.htm. To contact the transfer station, call 602-454-2050.



DECEMBER 31, 2008

5:00 P.M. - 1:00 A.M. MILL AVENUE DISTRICT
7:00 P.M. - 1:00 A.M. TEMPE BEACH PARK

TEMPE RESIDENT VOUCHER

Tempe residents are eligible to purchase up to four tickets at \$5.00 each for the Insight Fiesta Bowl Block Party on December 31. You MUST bring this voucher to the following locations beginning December 3, to purchase your tickets: Escalante Recreation Center • Kiwanis Park Recreation Center • West Side Multi-Generation Center • Northside Multi-Generational Center • Pyle Adult Recreation Center • Tempe Parks and Recreation • Rio Salado Operations Center.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Day Phone _____

Payment: (circle one) ☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard

Credit Card # _____

Exp Date: _____ Signature _____

of tickets (limit 4) _____ x \$5= _____

TOTAL \$ _____

LIMIT FOUR TICKETS PER HOUSEHOLD

OFFER EXPIRES DECEMBER 26, 2008, 5:00 P.M. - KIDS 12 AND UNDER FREE WITH ADULT ADMISSION

Transition from analog to digital coming in February

Tempe residents can dispose of old TVs

Television stations will begin to broadcast entirely in digital format on Feb. 17, 2009. This change will free up signal space for emergency responders in addition to allowing for higher-quality pictures and sound. After Feb. 17, older analog television sets that are not connected to cable will need a DTV transition converter box. This applies particularly to residents who use outside antennas or “rabbit ears.” Residents with TVs connected to satellite or cable do not need anything additional.

In an effort to assist with the transformation, the federal government, through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), will be offering coupons worth \$40 each to help pay for the boxes. Each household can get two coupons that are valid for 90 days. The coupons are available at by calling 1-888-388-2009 or through www.DTV2009.gov.

Although older TVs will only need the converter box to continue working, some residents may wish to instead replace their old TVs. Old television sets should be disposed of properly, so Tempe and Guadalupe residents can drop off their TVs at the Household Products Collection Center, 1320 E. University Dr.

For more information, visit www.ncta.com or www.DTVtransition.org. For information on the Household Products Collection Center, visit www.tempe.gov/hhw.

Danish holiday traditions at the Petersen House

Celebrate the holiday season at the Petersen House Museum, a restored Tempe home that features regular, docent-led tours. The house built by a pioneering Danish immigrant in 1892 will be filled with Danish decorations and traditions for the holiday season. The fairy tales of Denmark’s famous storyteller, Hans Christian Anderson, will be featured in this year’s celebration. On three consecutive Sundays, The East Valley Children’s Theatre will present short dramatizations of the fairy tales, including The Princess and the Pea, The Steadfast Tin Soldier, The Little Match Girl and The Ugly Duckling. Refreshments, ornament decoration activities and sing-alongs will also be part of the celebration.

Join the free festivities from Dec. 7- Jan. 3. The museum is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sundays (Dec 7-21) from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. The Petersen House Museum is located at 1414 W. Southern Ave., at the northwest corner of Southern Avenue and Priest Drive. For more information, call 480-350-5151 or visit www.tempe.gov/petersenhouse.

Safety first

Testing of METRO light rail in Tempe will continue until opening weekend in late December.
For safety tips visit www.metrohightail.org.



Downtown Public Art

Only in Tempe can residents and visitors mingle with Charles Trumbull Hayden and three giant rabbits, read the pages of a six-mile-long book and create picture-perfect postcards. Unique public art can be seen throughout the Mill Avenue District, such as these pieces:

- Framed by “A” Mountain where he first surveyed the land, the 8-foot-tall bronze memorial of Tempe’s founding father, Charles Trumbull Hayden, is located on Fifth Street, east of Mill Avenue, in front of the Police/Courts building. Around the base, the statue incorporates scenes from Hayden’s life as the founder of the Hayden Flour Mill, Hayden’s Ferry and the Tempe Normal School. The statue was completed in 1995 by artist Clarke Riedy.
- Three enormous rabbits – Restful Rabbit, Guard Rabbit and Groomer Rabbit – are named for the distinctive poses they strike at their home near the Centerpoint fountain at 700 S. Mill Ave. Though blacktail rabbits may be native to Arizona deserts, it took artist Mark Rossi’s artistic ability to bring the cast bronze, 8- to 14-foot statues to Tempe. The rabbits, ranging from 1,000 to 1,500 pounds each, were completed in 1992.
- Visitors to Tempe Town Lake can read the tiles of the one-of-a-kind “Words over Water” public art display. In 2001, Karla Elling, Harry Reese and Alberto Rios created the artwork out of granite tiles along the lake’s seat wall. More than 600 tiles are featured in the six-mile span, showcasing poems and images representing the emotions, people and lifestyle of the Southwest.
- In 1995, Susan T. Gamble created “Greetings from Tempe” as a decorative, mosaic backdrop for visitors’ photographs. The stand is positioned east of Mill Avenue and Sixth Street, with the inverted-pyramid City Hall building in the background. Visitors routinely use the piece to take photos of themselves in commemoration of their trips to Tempe.

Many more public art displays are located throughout Tempe. For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/arts/publicart.

Calendar

City Council Meetings

The November/December schedule for Tempe City Council meetings

November 6, 2008

6 p.m., Issue Review Session
7:30 p.m., Council Meeting

November 20, 2008

6 p.m., Issue Review Session
7:30 p.m., Council Meeting

December 11, 2008

6 p.m., Issue Review Session
7:30 p.m., Council Meeting

Meetings are aired live on Tempe 11 and the Internet at www.tempe.gov/tempe11.

City Council meetings are held in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 31 E. Fifth St. Agendas are posted 24 hours before each meeting outside the Council Chambers and on the second floor of City Hall. Meetings are subject to change. Confirm dates and times with the City Clerk's Office, 480-350-8241 or on the Web site at www.tempe.gov/clerk.

Tempe City Council

Hugh Hallman, Mayor

Shana Ellis, Vice Mayor

P. Ben Arredondo, Councilmember

Mark W. Mitchell, Councilmember

Joel Navarro, Councilmember

Onnie Shekerjian, Councilmember

Corey Woods, Councilmember

Charlie Meyer, City Manager

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To contact the Mayor and Council, call 480-350-8110.

City of Tempe
31 E. 5th St., Tempe, AZ 85281
www.tempe.gov

News you can use

Santa Show

For the eighth year, Tempe 11 will air the Santa Show, a live call-in show hosted by Dick Steely and starring the man of the month, Santa Claus. It is a popular tradition for Tempe children who watch the show live on the city's cable channel, and for the viewers everywhere who watch it live on the city's Web site, www.tempe.gov/tempe11. This year, the show will air Monday, Dec. 8, starting at 6:30 p.m. Children can call 480-350-8900 to talk to Santa. The show also features segments highlighting the many holiday events in Tempe.

Holiday season glitters in Mill Avenue District

The APS Fantasy of Lights Boat Parade will illuminate Tempe Town Lake on Saturday, Dec. 13. Decorated boats light up the night, while musical entertainment, kids' activities and 50 tons of snow add seasonal atmosphere. This free event starts at 4 p.m. at Tempe Beach Park, at Mill Avenue and Rio Salado Parkway, and features a dazzling fireworks finale. For more information, visit www.downtowntempe.com.

Swimming with Santa

Following all of his hard work this holiday season, Santa has chosen Kiwanis Recreation Center as the place to start his vacation. On Dec. 26 and 27, from 1-3 p.m., kids can swim with Santa and thank him for their holiday gifts. Free prizes will be raffled. Admission is \$6 for kids 13 and older and \$3 for ages 2-12. Children under the age of 8 must have an adult with them at all times while in the water. Winter wave pool hours are 1-5 p.m. Dec. 26-30 and Jan. 2-3. For more information, visit www.tempe.gov/kiwanis.

Volunteers needed for Tempe early literacy program

Put your experience, time and patience to use by teaching a child to read. Experience Corps is a nationally recognized literacy program hosted by the City of Tempe Social Services division in partnership with the Tempe Elementary School District. The Tempe program is looking for volunteers who want to make a difference in children's lives. Volunteer tutors work one-on-one with struggling students in kindergarten through third grade to improve reading skills. Volunteers do not need special skills; training and support services will be provided. Time commitments can be arranged and those 55 and older can receive a monthly stipend. For more information please call Kim Klaiber at 480-695- 5108 or Peggy Goldberg at 480-858-2465.

Public input sought for METRO's Tempe South future corridor project

Public meeting dates are scheduled to share the results of METRO's Tier 2 analysis on the Tempe South future high capacity transit corridor project. Residents are encouraged to participate in this project update and provide input on the alignment and transit mode preference. Meeting dates and locations are: Tuesday, Dec. 9, from 6-8 p.m. at the Desert Breeze Substation in Chandler, 251 N. Desert Breeze Blvd.; and Wednesday, Dec. 10, from 6-8 p.m. at the Tempe Public Library, 3005 S. Rural Rd. Opportunities for public involvement will occur throughout the project development process. Those unable to attend the meetings may send their comments to Pamela Cecere at 602-385-1622/TTY 602-322-4499 or pcecere@metrolightrail.org. For more information about the project, visit: www.metrolightrail.org.

Holiday Fantasia

Bring the whole family for a free afternoon of holiday happenings on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 1-4 p.m. at the city's Vihel Center for the Arts, 3340 S. Rural Rd. Bring a camera to take a picture with Santa himself. There will be "make and take" holiday activities, cookies and punch. Listen to stories with a holiday theme. For more information, call 480-350-5100.